

# Michigan State Police

## ***Crash Advisory #10***



April 2005

### **Exactly what do you define as a traffic crash?**

Ask yourself, "Did the incident..."

1. Involve at least one motor vehicle?
2. Occur within a portion of roadway ordinarily used by other motor vehicles?
3. Include a human injury or damage to property?
4. Occur without being part of a cataclysm (tornado, earthquake, landslide, flood, etc.)?
5. Occur without being part of a deliberate act?
6. If it involves a train, occur prior to some damage to the train?
7. Occur without an aircraft or watercraft being involved?"

If you answered yes to ALL of these questions, you have yourself a genuine, reportable traffic crash according to strict ANSI D-16 Manual definitions.

But the **Michigan** criteria are simply; "**Did the incident involve...**"

1. **a motor vehicle**
2. **in transport**
3. **on a roadway**
4. **that resulted in death, injury or property damage of \$1000 or more?"**

There are some obvious exceptions to this rule: We want you to report ANY crash that involves death, a snowmobile or an ORV, even if it occurs on private property. The threshold for reporting a snowmobile or ORV crash, on public or private property, is \$100, not \$1000. Call us if you are in doubt.

### **Medical Fatal**

***Mary Smith had a heart attack while driving, struck another car, and then died in the crash. The coroner said Smith died of the heart attack, not from the crash. Do I report this as a Fatal Crash?***

YES. Fill in the fatal bubble at the top of the form and make sure the victim's injury code is marked "**K**". Indicate the coroner's findings in the remarks portion of the UD-10. When you submit your report as a Fatal it will be sent to the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) Unit. They will be watching for it so it can be matched up with the LEIN message you sent earlier, reporting the fatal. The FARS analysts will then make the appropriate changes to the report.

***Please Distribute to All Personnel Who Complete or Review Traffic Crash Reports***

